

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A pre-assembled apparatus for reducing the tendency of upper proportions of a wall ~~walls~~ to move with respect to a foundation as a result of lateral forces applied in a direction parallel to the wall, said apparatus in combination with said wall comprising:

said wall, said wall having and upper plate, a lower plate, and studs connecting said upper plate to said lower plate, said studs supporting said upper plate;

said apparatus inserted within and connected to said wall, said apparatus comprising

two vertically extending posts having both an upper and a lower end and defining a front and a back side, wherein said two vertically extending posts are positioned in a pre-selected spaced relationship;

a horizontally extending upper member which is connected to said upper ends of said two vertically extending posts and wherein said horizontally extending upper member is ~~configured to be~~ connected to an upper portion of said wall;

one or more brace members that interconnect said two vertically extending posts so as to maintain said vertically extending posts in said pre-selected spaced relationship when said apparatus is installed in a wall that is under shear stress from said lateral forces; and

two attachment points which are respectively connected to said lower ends of said two vertically extending posts wherein said both of said two attachment points are ~~configured to be~~ attached to an anchor

~~point~~ points that ~~is~~ are anchored in said foundation of said building to thereby anchor said vertically extending posts to said anchor points, and wherein said apparatus is pre-assembled to allow for installation in said wall by attaching said two attachment points to said anchor points and connecting said upper member to said upper portion of said wall so that said apparatus thereby reduces the tendency of said upper portion to move relative said foundation.

2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said one or more brace members is comprised of two planar members attached to said front and said back side of said two vertical posts and to said upper horizontal member.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a lower horizontal member that is attached to said lower ends of said two vertical posts and wherein said two planar members are attached to said lower horizontal member.
4. (Previously amended) The apparatus of Claim 3, wherein said apparatus is adapted to reduce the tendency of an upper portion of said wall to move relative said foundation with respect to an uplift force, said uplift force on said wall occurring as a result of an overturn movement caused by said wall being exposed to said lateral forces.
5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein said two vertical posts and said planar members are formed out of metal.
6. (Previously amended) The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said two vertical posts are approximately 7'-8" in height and said apparatus is less than 3 feet in width and said apparatus is adapted to reduce the tendency of said upper portion of said wall to move when said upper horizontal member of said apparatus is connected to said upper portion of said wall, said upper portion of said wall

being formed with an upper plate, and when said lateral forces cause said upper plate to move, causing motion, said apparatus reduces said motion of said upper plate of said wall that is connected to said upper horizontal member to approximately 0.5" of deflection or less from a rest position when subjected to 3,500lb. of said lateral forces applied on said upper plate in said direction parallel to said horizontal upper member in a pseudo-cyclic shear testing.

10. (Previously amended) An apparatus for reducing the tendency of an upper portions of a wall in a building to move with respect to a foundation as a result of lateral forces applied in a direction parallel to the wall, said apparatus in combination with said wall comprising:

said wall, said wall having an upper plate, a lower plate, and studs connecting said upper plate to said lower plate, said studs supporting said upper plate;

said apparatus inserted within and connected to said wall, said apparatus comprising

two vertically extending posts having both an upper end and a lower end and defining a front and back side, wherein said two vertically extending posts are positioned in a preselected spaced relationship;

at least one panel member interconnecting said two vertically extending posts substantially along the entire length of said posts;

two holdown bolts that are anchored in said foundation of said building; and

two attachment points which are respectively connected to said lower ends of said vertically extending posts wherein said both of said two attachment points are respectively attached to said two holdown bolts and wherein said apparatus is connected to said wall by said two